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Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1857.

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[a1412]

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[a34]		

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Hongkong, 24th July 1905. [a1726]

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Hongkong, 7th October, 1904. [a4]

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, AUGUST 7TH, 1905.

JOHN BULL, who is continually believed to take his pleasures sadly, takes his business with a cheery sang from that is remarkable when we remember how often he is adjured to "wake up," and warned that he is going to the dogs in consequence of his easy-going methods of conducting business. But perhaps it is not so remarkable after all, for the moral of the teller of fables is most clear, that too many cries of "wolf" result in a calloused ear. Such a deaf ear has been turned to the fiscal warnings of Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, and such indifference, if indifference it can justly be called, awaits all excitable prophecies of disaster, even when they may have some reason to sound the note of warning. It may be argued, of course, that there is no indifference really, and that the British imperturbability is akin to that of the tortoise which beat the hare in the *Aesop* handicap. Trade returns and statistics have a knack of appearing to upset the calculations of the croakers, and showing that though the methods of his competitors may be more showy and attractive, the results are such that JOHN BULL has no need to fall into the habit of worrying or of fussing. There have not lately been any particularly noticeable prophecies, that we know of; but some of the minor reprimands continue to make their appearance. The advice given to young German commercial men, to avoid the comradere nuisance by studying the Chinese language, which advice of the German Consul at Shanghai we mentioned some months ago, is being frequently quoted; and we note that Mr.

JAMES SCOTT, the British Consul at Canton, has endorsed the wisdom of it by expressing his regret that Britons do not take the trouble to learn the language of the Chinese with whom they do so much business. We presume that no one, not even the young commercial men directly addressed, will deny that it would be a great advantage sometimes to be able to talk directly with their Chinese customers and clients. The removal of the middle-man is usually regarded as a desideratum, even when the middle-man is honest: when the middle-man has a liking for "squeeze," and such excellent opportunities for making the same, the desirability of getting rid of him is tenfold greater. But the peculiarly favourable position of the comradere for feathering his own nest as compared with the disadvantageous position of his unilingual employer, is no new discovery. The disadvantages of having to transact business with go-betweens, comradere, interpreters, and other agents, was discovered long ago, and we cannot believe that it was mere indifference that has confined the study of Chinese to a few sinologists. JOHN BULL has never been a good linguist. The terrible ignorance he shows of the comparatively simple continental languages of commerce is a matter of general comment with Frenchmen and Germans who learn English as they learn book-keeping, as one of the rudiments of business.

Perhaps JOHN BULL is not so simple, so stupid, after all. It is necessary in trade that the traders should understand each other. A common language is necessary. The foreigner learns English. It would not improve the position, so he thinks, for JOHN BULL to learn their "lingo." So to the frequent cry that he must emulate the enterprise and industry of his competitors, in acquiring languages, JOHN BULL turns a deaf ear. "Volapuk? Esperanto? If they want a universal language," he says, "what's the matter with English? Let them learn that." The result, or rather, one result, of that undoubtedly has been the wider spread throughout the world of the English tongue. There is scarcely a town of any importance in Europe where a shop-keeper cannot be found to sell something in English and to change an English sovereign. In China, it is often remarked, and we do not think it is an exaggeration, that when two Chinese from different provinces meet in Shanghai or Hongkong, they converse in English, or in what passes for English in these parts. The Frenchman from Tonkin says to his rich friend, "Allez, vite," but generally has to follow it up with "Go on, Chop-chop." It is even sometimes alleged that the greatest trouble our patriotic American friends have is that they are obliged to make their 4th of July speeches in English! Coming back to the question of learning Chinese, it is easy to see that if the Englishman has found the study of European languages "not worth the candle" for commercial purposes, he will think twice about devoting his mind to the acquisition of such a formidable language as Chinese. It is certain that he has thought at least once about it; and that his neglect is deliberate, rather than careless. There is a semi-humorous, half-serious remark often made by typhons that the man who has fitted himself to transact business direct with the Chinaman has unfitted himself to transact business with anybody. For the smattering of colloquial, or even the extensive knowledge of colloquial, is not enough with which to tackle big contracts, and there are many with such knowledge who prefer to employ the interpreter when an important transaction is in question. "It is easier to have a misunderstanding through one Chinese word than through one English word."

In practice it is sufficient to notice that the possession of an intimate acquaintance with Chinese does not necessarily mean wealth, to upset the suggestion of those who think that the successful study of Chinese is the "open sesame" to trade. A sinologue may be a policeman, an interpreter, a Customs man, and several other things, but it does not follow that he can be, by virtue of his special attainment, a prince of commerce. It is, we repeat, not a question of what may be or might be, but a matter of what is. This, inter alia, is notably the intending student, who is further faced by the necessity of choosing which particular dialect of Chinese he will devote his studies to, by the length of time that must be given to it, and by the example of so many others who have managed well without it, and who do not neglect to tell him so. Recreation appeals very strongly to the athletic and sporting young Englishman, but as we have suggested, it is not only that. He is quite business-like enough to ask the question, "Will it

pay?" and when, as is usually the case in this particular matter, the answer is "no," there is an end of it, and no amount of preaching by those who have so ably traversed the pons asinorum will summon back the abandoned intention. It is not, as we have already pointed out, a matter for unmitigated regret. This laziness, this indifference, or this calculating economy of energy, whichever way it be described, has had one result for which many Englishmen are thankful and proud: the universal spread of the English speech.

There have been no plague cases for three or four days now. The last total was 273.

H.E. the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to Ordinance No. 4 of 1905 (the Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance) passed by the Legislative Council.

The *Gazette* notifies that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, Police Magistrate, to act as Colonial Secretary during the absence on leave of the Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G.

An international exhibition will be held at Christchurch, New Zealand, during the Summer of 1906-07. The *Gazette* notifies that if any local firms are desirous of becoming exhibitors, or wish further information about the exhibition, they can obtain same on application at the C. S. D.

Another batch of gamblers was placed before Mr. G. N. Orme at the Police Court on Saturday. The men were charged at the instance of Sergeant Lee, who arrested them in a house in Amoy Lane on Friday night. Being first offenders, His Worship dealt leniently with them, letting the keeper off with a fine of \$20, and the others with a fine of \$2 each.

Applicants should remember that when applying under section 3 (1) of the Military Stores (Prohibition of Exportation) Ordinance No. 1 of 1862, for permission to export from the Colony or to carry coastwise within the Colony, arms, ammunition or other articles, the export of which is prohibited by Proclamation of the 20th May, 1905, such application must be accompanied by a full description of the articles in respect of which a permit is desired.

The following returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st July, as certified by the managers of the respective banks, are published in the *Gazette*:

Banks.	Average.	Reserve.
Chartered Bank	\$ 3,578,815	\$ 2,200,000
H. & S. Bank	13,451,189	9,000,000
National Bank	98,760	70,000
Total	\$17,128,764	\$11,270,000

THE BATTERY PATH CASE.

The hearing of the case against Aaron Ellis, charged with the manslaughter of Gunner R. Sampson, R.G.A., will be opened before Mr. F. A. Hazell at the Police Court on Tuesday.

EMBEZZLER BROUGHT FROM MACAO.

It was recorded in these columns some weeks ago how Kwok Wong, a rent collector, in the employ of Tan Ho, contractor, of No. 45 Pottinger Street, after collecting \$544 on account of rent owing to his master, departed to Macao without paying over the amount. Local detectives traced him to the "Gem of the Orient" and there he was arrested, and his extradition applied for to the Macao authorities, and granted. He was brought back by Detective Sergeant Watt, and had evidently enjoyed his holiday, for out of the \$544 with which he departed, only one dollar was found in his possession when arrested.

He was charged with embezzlement of the sum before Mr. G. N. Orme at the Police Court on Saturday, and having nothing to say in defence, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

POLICE RECREATION CLUB.

LAWN-TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

This tournament was concluded at Happy Valley on Saturday afternoon. Inspectors Langley and Ritchie were to play off the winner of this set played Inspector Gould in the final. It was Mr. Ritchie's "Saturday out" for he defeated both opponents, and won the first prize, a pair of bowls presented by Mr. J. Macdonald, Government Marine Surveyor. The second prize, the amount taken in entrance fees, was to Inspector Gould.

This also is nearing completion. The winner will be awarded a silver cigar case presented by Inspector Langley, while the second man chooses his own prize, which will be paid for by the Club out of the entrance fees.

The remaining matches to be played in the second round (singles) are between Shepherd and Langley; Grant and Mackenzie; Waterer and Gordon. In the third round Watt will play Shepherd, or Langley and Clyde meet Grant or Mackenzie. Pitt scratched to Edwards, who will next meet Waterer or Gordon.

In the doubles Lander and Council were beaten by Cathbert and Henderson, Robertson and Langley succumbed to the superior play of Kent and Shepherd, while Pitt and Mackenzie beat Gordon and Watt.

LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The P.M.S.S. Co.'s steamer *Siberia*, which left here on July 6th, arrived at San Francisco, her destination, on the 2nd instant.

The str. *Rubi* left Manila on Saturday, the 5th inst., and is due here to-day at 5 p.m. The str. *Indra*, from New York, left Singapore for this port on the 5th inst. at 5 a.m., and is due here on the 10th inst.

TELEGRAMS.

"DAILY PRESS" SERVICE.

CHAN OI-TING DEAD.

SHANGHAI, 6th August.

Chan Oi-ting died to-day.

Chan Oi-ting was as well known in Hongkong as in Shanghai, being a thorough business man, with Western attainments. He was formerly Consul-General to Cuba, and married a Spanish lady. He was one of the commissioners who accompanied Li Hung-chang when the China-Japanese settlement was arranged. He held an official position in connection with the Tai Ping Collieries. He knew shorthand, and was at one time, we are informed, engaged in newspaper work in Hongkong. He has property here.—En.

GUBERNATORIAL CHANGE IN BORNEO.

SARAWAK, 4th August.

Mr. E. P. Gueritz, Governor of British North Borneo, who has been in poor health ever since he accepted the appointment last year, has resigned.

Major C. H. Harrington, Commandant of Constabulary, has been appointed Acting Governor *pro tem*.

[REUTERS' SERVICE.]

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

LONDON, 3rd August.

On the arrival of M. de Witte at New York, Professor Martens read a statement from M. de Witte to the reporters on the quay, in which he said he hoped that the acquaintance of two chivalrous foes, begun on the battlefield, would ripen into a lasting friendship, but Russia must adjudge the terms admissible before proceeding to formal negotiations. The Tsar's acceptance of President Roosevelt's invitation, involving as it did the unusual course of the appointment of a mission before the enemy's terms were even outlined, was an eloquent token of the friendly feelings of Russia towards the United States, and it was with a desire of strengthening that friendship that the Tsar accepted the invitation, and even if the mission was otherwise barren this would be a memorable event for Russia and the United States.

M. de Witte, interviewed on the voyage, minimised the importance of Russia's reverses, and said that the Japanese had not yet acquired such a supremacy as to make Russia consider them as a truly redoubtable enemy; they would have to advance four times as far before they would be in a position to impose terms. The internal situation of Russia would in no wise affect the question of peace; the bulk of the Russians regarded the war simply as a distant colonial war; not at all threatening the security of the country; he himself strongly favoured peace, but the Japanese must be convinced that peace was in no wise indispensable to Russia, who will never accept conditions even apparently offending her amour propre.

LATER.

The peace conference will meet on the 8th instant. The success of the negotiations is regarded as doubtful in Tokyo, where indignation is growing owing to the arrogant attitude of St. Petersburg.

THE MOROCCO QUESTION.

LONDON, 3rd August.

The French note giving details of the French programme at the Morocco Conference, has been handed to the German Ambassador in Paris.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

LONDON, 3rd August.

At the discussion on the Foreign Office Estimates in the House of Commons, the Opposition speakers unanimously favoured the renewal of the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE IN CHINA.

LONDON, 4th August.

In the debate on the Foreign Office estimates, Earl Percy said that the government was fully alive to the importance of co-operating with France for the promotion of common interests in China; and that negotiations were approaching conclusion for the joint construction of a railway in the Yangtze Valley to Sand's one Basin and Szechuan Basin.

THE MACKAY TREATY.

LONDON, 4th August.

Earl Percy in the House of Commons said that the "equality of opportunity treatment" in the Mackay treaty had not been infringed except as regards mining regulations and the currency; the other points mentioned in the Shanghai memorial were not infractions. There was no evidence that Germany was violating the principle of "the open door" in Shanghai.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Hongkong Observatory yesterday issued the following report:

On the 6th at 11.55 a.m. the barometer has risen in N. China, and fallen in S. China, Formosa and the Loochoos.

Pressure is high over the China Sea, and low over the Sea of Japan, and also in the Pacific to the South of the Loochoos.

Moderate to fresh variable winds may be expected in the Formosa Channel, and moderate W. and S.W. winds over the N. part of the China Sea.

Forecast:—Moderate S.W. winds; fair to showery.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 4th August.

OPIMUM DUTY RE-IMPOSED.
The duty is again to be levied on prepared opium in Kwangtung province. Owing to difficulties experienced by the Provincial Treasury in meeting the enormous public expenditure, Viceroy Shun, I hear, has given instructions to Lo Ping-Ching, a member of the Sin Hui Kok, to replace the tax of three mace per tael on all prepared opium. This small duty was imposed for many years, until the Cui's Opium Monopoly was granted to the Kwong Hing Company about three years ago. This Company was floated by the late Wong Chuk-yan, comradere of E. D. Sassoon and Co., Hongkong. They applied for the right to impose a tax on crude opium after it passed the I. M. Customs, paying like of \$200 per chest. I believe the Kwong Hong Co's tax was about the same per chest. Foreign merchants in Hongkong and Canton naturally protested, and the Chamber of Commerce at Hongkong took up the matter. Mr. James Scott, the British Consul, wrote a strong protest to the Viceroy, calling it an unreasonable increase, and a clear contravention of the Chfoo treaty. When in due course the British Minister introduced the matter to the Wei-wu-pu, the tax was abolished. The Firm ceased to pay, and the Company became insolvent, the comradere and merchants interested suffering considerably. It is needless, perhaps, to add that the Kwong Hing Co. never recovered a cent of the million dollars they had paid to the Chinese Government for the concession.

Yesterday King Shun-tong, head of the prepared opium guild, called at the Sin Hui Tok and had a three hours interview with Lo Ping-ching. The result is not yet reported.

CHINESE GOVERNMENT ENTERS CEMENT BUSINESS.

The Government has deputed Li Yuen-mui an expert magistrate, to inspect the Fi Shii Ngam (Bat Cave) quarry at Fa Yuen, and vicinity, to see if the local quartz and granite are suitable for cement making. If his report be favourable, the Government hopes to make a large sum annually by making cement.

MEMORIAL BY GOVERNOR CHANG: A DEATH BY JUDICIAL TORTURE.

In the first month of this year, Mak Ah-sui was arrested and tried by the Provincial Judge Ching Yee-lok for armed robbery, and sentenced to death. Under Chinese law, copies of evidence, written confession, etc., must be seen by the Viceroy and Governor before sentence is executed. In this case, no evidence was taken, and only a confession set up. The Viceroy approved, but Governor Chang reversed the sentence, and pointed out that the "confession" denied carrying arms or weapons. The case went to Li Tsun, secretary of the military yamen, and then the prisoner pleaded absolute innocence. Li Tsun, disregarding the case on to Lau Ching-ho, expecting a magistrate, before whom a man just arrested swore that he was an accomplice in the armed robbery with Mak Ah-sui. The latter stuck to his plea of innocence through four days of frightful torture, and on the fifth day he died. An enquiry proved that the man had died as a consequence of the tortures to which he had been judicially subjected, and when questioned, Magistrate Lau frankly admitted that he had received private orders from Judge Ching to use the most severe tortures to make the prisoner confess. All this is reported in the memorial of Governor Chang to the Throne.

FIRE ON THE S.S. "YIK SANG."

A fire, supposed to have started through spontaneous combustion, broke out in the after hold of the s.s. *Yik Sang*, in which coal is stowed, on Saturday night. The continual blowing of the steamer's whistle called the police pincers, and when Inspector Langley learned the cause of the disturbance he signalled to the Tsimshatzi police station for a relay of men. These were soon on board, and with the assistance of the crew, flooded the hold, and thus overcame the fire. As far as can be seen at present, the damage to the ship is trifling.

THE AMERICAN VISITORS.

The *Cabotage* of August 2nd—says—Governor General Wright received a cable yesterday evening from Captain Noble, his military aide, in Nagasaki, stating that owing to the small amount of cargo that needed transshipment the *Manchuria* had gained several hours and was able to leave port prior to the time set. On this account she will leave again Manila bay on Saturday morning instead of on Sunday.

As a result of this change greater part of the program, at least all that pertaining to the reception of the guests will have to be changed and the parade which was to have taken place Monday will take place Saturday.

It is not thought that this change will affect the remainder of the program which will probably continue as planned, and the members of the visiting party will be able to spend the day and a half in independent pleasure instead of having to conform to the official program.

MOROCCO.

London, August 1.—The Moroccan situation is complicated by the interests and demands of German commercial interest in that kingdom. It has been assumed that the crisis between France and Germany, and incidentally Great Britain as the ally of France in Morocco, has passed, but a cloud now arises on account of the increasing demands of the German merchants there for privileges which hitherto have been a virtual monopoly for French houses.

The German press asks that the Kaiser assure the Moroccan interests of his empire the same rights in Morocco as supposedly possessed by French syndicates. This attitude of Germany makes almost impossible the understanding on the Moroccan matter which a few weeks ago had supplanted the awkward and threatening situation between the nations, and which at one time seemed to make war certain.

CORRESPONDENCE.

COPRA.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"]

Hongkong 4th August.

SIR.—Having noticed your article with reference to the prominence now being given to the "Copra Industry" in the Philippines, I thought it might be of interest to some of your readers to learn a few facts regarding the industry in British New Guinea. As a preface I might mention, that from the time of annexation, she has always been an expense to the Mother country, not because the colony has no natural resources but rather, from the position the Government have taken up in the matter, in a negative sense.

The largest river is the Fly which is navigated some years ago by Sir William McGregor to a distance of from five to six hundred miles inland, and his report showed that the banks on either side were lined with the cocoa-nut palm. Should the industry be properly exploited, I think it would safely provide the Fly River district alone could provide an almost inexhaustible supply of copra; added to which the cost of procuring it is a very small one on account of the labour being so cheap. Kival, an island in the mouth of the river, alone having a population of 15,000 civilized natives, the average wage varying from 5/- to 10/- per month, and as the majority accept their wages in trade goods showing a profit of about 100 per cent, the possibility of working such an industry to a successful issue seems certain. Of course there are drawbacks, such as the malaria which everybody gets, and the heat which is certainly fairly severe, but as the Missionaries and Government officials on a small salary manage to stick it, surely a planter with such prospects of wealth could do the same.

I might mention that the present output from the Fly is got from an old native who brings in about a ton yearly which is sufficient to provide himself and several wives with calico, knives and tobacco and an occasional sail cloth for his canoe.—Yours,

PAPUAN.

The official salaries described as "low" by our correspondent are so when compared with the rate of remuneration ruling at Hongkong, but in Australia they are considered high.

NAVAL EXPLOSIONS.

REMINISCENCES ON "WAVING PLUME."

The fatal explosion on board the United States Gunboat *Bennington* at San Diego recalls a somewhat similar and fearful disaster to the *Dottel* of the English Royal Navy, which occurred some years ago off Sandy Point, Straits of Magellan. The patriotic action of all branches of the American people when disaster overtakes any part of their country's defenders compels more than favourably with that of our own nation. We read in the case of the *Bennington* that physicians have hurried from Los Angeles and even San Francisco to San Diego on the off chance of rendering assistance to the survivors; we also hear of hotels and private houses being thrown open for the wounded and unusual in our own case—immediate Government enquiry so that the responsibility for such a disaster may be fixed upon the right person or persons who have shown negligence. The case of the *Dottel* was as follows. A new drier for paint was invented and bought in enormous quantities by the Admiralty for use on-board ships of the Royal Navy. It must be recollected that a few years ago the question of painting a man-of-war received far more attention than such minor details as guns and other weapons. Consequently the inventor of this drier for paint received much honour and glory in addition to a good price for the chemical. H.M.S. *Dottel* had her consignment of this valuable new invention stowed in the fore part of the ship and, upon arrival in Sandy Point, Captain Richard Evans gave orders that the different stores on board should be examined and restowed after a most tempestuous passage out from England. Therefore the first lieutenant, sergeant of marines, boatswain and carpenter, lanterns in hand, proceeded to the store room of the ship. Immediately there was a terrific explosion which reduced the fore part of the ship to match-wood and blew Captain Evans, one of the very few survivors, clear up through his skylight. As he was sitting in his bath at the time he was "lightly" clad and, when thrown into the sea, was able to swim and render some assistance in saving life. The only trace left of this disaster is to be found on shore at Sandy Point in the shape of a dilapidated old wooden cross at whose base can with difficulty be deciphered the names of nearly the whole ship's company who lost their lives. The gruesome task of diving for the guns and what remained of the ill-fated ship was undertaken by two officers, Lieutenants Dean-Pitt and Fowler, R.N., amongst others. The sadness and depth of the water rendered this work extremely hazardous and the officers received the warmest thanks of the Government for their courageous services, which were promptly forgotten and never rewarded! The mischief was found to exist in the wonderful new drier for paint—the government's pet and new invention—which proved to be an explosive of the highest and most effective order. It was a mercy only one of our battleships was lost through the negligence of whoever invented and introduced the mixture into the service. The only negligence brought home to anyone was without shadow of doubt, that on the part of the Government which allowed such rubbish to be bought and issued, forgot to reward those officers who rendered service under the melancholy circumstances and allowed the memorial to the gallant dead to fall to pieces and rot so many thousand miles away from home. It was also a curious piece of negligence forgetting to hang the inventor!

HOW'S YOUR LIVER?

The liver is called upon in tropical and sub-tropical countries to serve the physiological functions of the body in a manner altogether in excess of what obtains in temperate climates. The first effect of heat is to excite the action of the liver, but after residing for some time in a tropical climate, the liver becomes exhausted, and the balance of function is now above, now below the normal. The consequence is digestive and other troubles, which are ever apt to engender the habit of taking drugs. The ailment is functional, merely, and a mild dose of Abbey's Effervescent Salt is all that is required as a corrective of the nature indicated, and we have no hesitation in recommending it. It is pleasant to take, and can be used as a refreshing drink, or as a gentle laxative, according to the quantity taken.

Abbey's Salt is a pleasant cooling, invigorating, effervescent tonic, laxative, it regulates the action of the stomach, liver, bowels, the system generally, it aids digestion, promotes excretion, purifies the blood and clears the complexion.

Abbey's Salt makes a delicious and refreshing draught at any time. It tastes somewhat like Soda Lemonade and is particularly enjoyable as a healthful beverage in hot climates.

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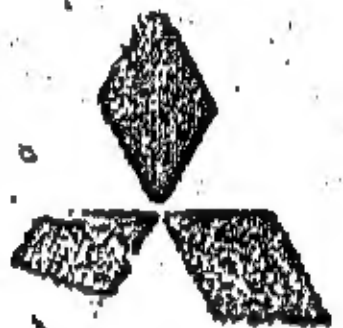
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THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD., have now 49,000 Cubic feet of Cold Storage available at EAST POINT. Stores will be open at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. daily, Sunday, excepted to receive and deliver all goods.

W. PARLANE, Manager, Hongkong, 18th November, 1901.



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Sole Agents for Kigyo, Komatsu (Tagawa) and Yashirobachi Coal (Karatani).

The Head and Branch Offices and the Agencies of the Company will receive any order for Coals produced from the above Collieries.

Coal sold in 1904 by the Company amounted to 1,326,000 tons.

TAKASHIMA COAL.

New and additional stocks at the Takashima Colliery have been completed and this well-known best and most economical steam coal in the EAST is now produced in abundance and can be supplied in any quantity.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1905. 14087

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An entirely New Company headed by THE GREAT HERBERT TROUPE OF ARIEL GYMNASTS.

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THE MARVELLOUS LION AND ELEPHANT ACT.

After doing several sensational tricks this performance concludes by the Elephant mounting a Tricycle with the Lion on his back and performing several times the ring.

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The only Tiger riding a Jockey Act.

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Elegant Costumes! Elegant Costumes! By our Corps de Ballet, entitled "THE BEAUTIFUL TROUPE OF BLACK HUNGARIAN HORSES."

The High Jumping Horse.

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NEWHAVEN holds the Australia record of 6 ft. 11 in. Bendigo Show, 1903.

A HOST OF AUXILIARIES, including A GREAT COMPANY of Equestrians and Equestriennes, Entree Riders, Ladies and Gentlemen, Canine Pedagogues, Jugglers and Jongleurs, Vaulters, Leapers, Clowns, Pedros, Faunymen, Dummies, Dolls, etc., etc.

BEAUTIFUL TRICK HORSES, PONIES, MULES, DONKEYS, BRONCHOS.

A splendid Military Band under the baton of Mr. A. HENDRIE.

Prices:—Boxes and First Chairs \$2, Second Chairs \$1, Gallery (Chinese only) 50 cents.

Box Plan at ROBINSON PLANO CO. Special Trains will leave the Post Office every few minutes direct to the door and will await passengers after the performance.

Hongkong, 5th August, 1905. 1842

THE NEW EAST.

THE RENAISSANCE OF ASIA.

BY H. F. PREVOST BATES.

Though we indicate events, rightly enough, as "making history," a study of the past offers sufficient proof that its manufacture has seldom preceded, and proves also that from a lack of that appreciation many of the most serious political mistakes have been made.

To-day, though intelligence reaches us so much more rapidly than in the past, it reports so many conflicting interests, and covers so wide a field of eventuality, that our task in selecting from the big bundle of events the creative circumstances which shall influence posterity is not rendered thereby the easier.

But from that very facility of communication, and in consequence the more rapid formulation of destiny, that task becomes the more imperative, especially when, as in the last few years, the future of every World-Power has been simultaneously affected.

It is close on six hundred years since this progressive development of Europe has been interfered with by an Asiatic Power, and for the greater part of that period the West has been practically accepted of the white man's mission, which is apparently to acquire the world for himself and to force upon the races he has dubbed inferior the civilisation which has proved such a doubtful blessing to himself.

The invasion of that process has naturally so staggering an effect on our complacency that it may be some time before we realise all it means; but the sooner we fit ourselves and our conceptions to the inevitable consequences of Japan's victorious campaign the better for us as a people and as a Power.

JAPAN'S PROBLEM.

And the first condition for understanding is a sympathetic appreciation of the real peril in which Japan stood, and from which she has extricated herself by a moral determination to which the world's history does not afford a parallel.

We have thought and spoken of the threat to Japan of Russia's passion for aggrandisement, and we have throughout considered our ally as fighting for national existence against the encroachment of a single Power. But our ally has seen things very differently. She has seen herself as but one of all the Eastern States whose extinction was threatened by the cupidity of all the Western Powers. We describe Japan as preparing for years for a struggle with Russia, forgetting what one may refer to as now almost common knowledge, that Russia had the refusal of her friendship for a year or two ago, and that it was the warning that she would accept Russia's terms if she declined here which brought about that alliance from which so much has sprung.

The English imagination travels with difficulty outside its own domain; there is no room in its idea of Japan's position we must cipher the conditions reversed from East to West, and ourselves an Island Empire something after the fashion of Nippon, surrounded by greedy Asiatics, as she by European nations.

Imagine the trade of these waters almost wholly in Japanese hands, and their highways always patrolled by Eastern Navies. Imagine Scandinavia, the western limit of an Asiatic Slav Empire, which, eating Northern Germany away, has obtained railway concessions to Hamburg, which it has strongly fortified.

Imagine Havre a Chinese port, the Loire Valley claimed as a Chinese sphere of influence, L'Orient and Brodous in Japanese hands, Portugal and part of Spain a Malay dependency and Japan prepotent also in Northern Africa.

Imagine Eastern interference in the settlement of all our quarrels, Germany forbidden, for instance, in 1871 to annex any portion of France, or to profit by our war in South Africa; and even then you do but imperfectly realise our ally's accumulating restrictions, since no European equivalent can be suggested for the manner of her action.

Would we be likely in such a position to limit our fear to a single enemy? Would we not rather fear the East as a whole, and see hope only in rolling back from Europe every vestige of its dominion. In these matters we are indeed hypocrites of the most contemptible dye. We cry "land for the English, Australia for the Australian, America for the American, and so forth; but we find the same cry extremely unjust when made in the mouth of the Filipino, the Hottentot, and the Chinese, and it is very possible we may be irrationally irritated when Japan raises it, as raise it unquestionably she will, for that East of which she has become the leader.

A CONTINUOUS POLICY.

This is no new position for Japan. Three hundred years ago the West threatened her with its unrest, its bigotry, its corruption, and Japan, in the Shogunate of Iyeyasu, replied by driving these "barbarians" of the "True Law" out of the country and by stamping out with terrible determination during two centuries the traces it had left.

It was only when, some fifty years ago, she realised that isolation would not save her from the fate which was overtaking the East, that she was forced to make terms for a while with the Arian's deceptive whiteness, to learn commerce and war from the West in order to teach that hemisphere in its turn how very imperfectly it had understood the East.

A policy which has never been departed from

since the days of Queen Elizabeth has a formidable air of continuity, which is in some danger of being obscured by the apparent contradiction of Japan's recent development. The change, however, has been of method, not of policy.

It says much for her adaptability that she should have fought so well and beaten so thoroughly a Power whose ally she had every wish to be, but that adaptability is but one part of her resourcefulness and marks how immensely to her mind the end at which she aims transcends in importance the means by which she may be forced to reach it. There is no finer test of statesmanship than the conception and handling of alternative lines of action, and one's admiration for the art with which we have been utilised as the friend and Russia crushed as the foe is heightened by an appreciation of how easily the position might have been reversed.

THE FUTURE TO BE FACED.

It remains now for us to realise the end at which Japan is aiming, and to shape our policy either to assist or to counteract it before compulsion makes us once more look foolish, while robbing us of the advantages which the initiative can confer.

That aim unquestionably is to secure the complete integrity of the East. How precisely she defines either East or integrity it is impossible to say. The very humblest definition of the one must include China and herself, and it is scarcely likely that she will differentiate between the two in her conception of the other. That will mean the virtual withdrawal of European influence from the Pacific.

Now, unpalatable as such retrogression may seem, there are points in its favour worth considering. China has been offering for years the most likely field for European competition. It will do us no harm to be robbed of that. Further, though twenty years ago we were the predominant Power in the Pacific, our influence has been steadily declining, and it is becoming plain that we stood to gain the least from any partition of China. With Japan mistress of the Pacific some restrictions may be placed on trading facilities, but these are likely to be far less oppressive than others we endure meekly.

Long before the other holders of Eastern territory receive notice to quit, we shall have been assisted in the helpful Japanese manner to return Weihaiwei to its previous owner, and if the evacuation of Hongkong should follow, after a long interval, its utility as a naval or military station will have ceased by then to exist—indeed, the days of our China Squadron are no doubt already numbered.

Further ahead than that it is difficult to look. Japan fully realises her strength will be the task of bringing China into line with her perspicacity and ambition; she may make of her a useful auxiliary, but to convert her into a source for a Christendom, as the dreamers of yellow perils have foretold, would be to revoke the inherited instincts of many thousand years.

Thus, so far as Japan's success will mean the banishment of Europe from Eastern Asia, we shall have to sacrifice no promotion and probably very little trade.

RUSSIA'S READJUSTMENT.

But there remains a more serious consequence which must not be overlooked. This damning back the tide of Russia's progress, even supposing that Vladivostok remains to her, must mean a seriously lessened power.

She has spent millions to provide her Siberian dominions with a warm-water port, and driven away from the Pacific, she must seek some other sea.

We have assisted at her exclusion from Mediterranean waters, we would assuredly resent her appearance in the North Sea; the Persian Gulf alone remains as a possible outlet, and the very pressure used to exclude her from the Pacific must force a premature push for her commerce across the trade routes of Iran. That is as deplorable as any engineering problem of strategy.

It is an issue we might have had to face in any case, but it will come the sooner, the more desperately, when it has become a question of that or nothing.

In that contingency, it may be asked—a contingency the direct result of an advantage we have helped to secure to her—will not Japan come to our assistance? An offensive and defensive alliance with her has been suggested in responsible quarters, but having everything grateful to Japan, we must remember that the services we have rendered her have cost us nothing, and it would be impertinent to expect more considerable sacrifices from her. We cannot ask her help without offing the possibility of an equivalent assistance and with the defence of our shores entrusted out rely to the Fleet—which may thus be tied idly, not by war but by the fear of it, to home waters it is difficult to see how that assistance is to be secured. It was the value of our Fleet in any waters which obtained for us the alliance of Japan, but since Mr. Balfour's astounding announcement, it is plain that the Fleet can have no further value as a guarantee; for we dare not send it, nor any considerable part of it, fourteen thousand miles away did the least tension exist with our near neighbours, were it the sole dependable protection for our shores. We must really face the situation. We have an Army of no use to anyone who have a Navy of use only to ourselves. If we refuse to pay for national insurance we must run the risk of national obliteration.

THE UNKNOWN FACTOR.

And let us not deceive ourselves with respect to Japan's feelings. We are still guilty of a very foolish and patronising fashion in speaking of her with admiration indeed, but with the admiration of acknowledged superiority. Yet it is Japan that is in almost every respect the greater people, and without doubt she has the wit to know it. She is as superior to us as a nation of soldiers is to a nation of shopkeepers, as a nation of artists to a nation of artisans, as a nation of patriots to a nation of politicians, as a nation of polished gentlemen to a nation of bores. She has studied the art of life where we have scorned it; she has accepted with splendid spirit all the burdens of greatness, while we shrink them with pitiful officiousness and craven fears. If Japan does not despise us there is no reason she should not, and we should certainly not reckon on her sharing

the preposterous admiration, with which we regard ourselves.

If she have any further use for us as allies it will be on account of a factor in the problem of the Pacific which we have not yet considered—the United States. In six years' time the American Navy, at its present rate of growth, will be, with one exception, the strongest in the world. Ten years later, if its ambitious and the supply of men continue, should find it without an equal. Long ere then the Panama Canal will have given the States an equal advantage in the two oceans, and Japan may find herself exposed to a commercial, and perhaps, if the Philippines speak truly, to a political, veracity which for the present she cannot gauge. She will know how humble in either direction our appetites are becoming, and it is possible she may see in our assistance—if we are able to offer it—a future retaining influence in the Atlantic.

All this is very far away, but not too far for long-sighted statesmen years ago to have considered. Surely it is time that we, too, accepted the results of her victories and faced with determination their inevitable consequences.—Morning Post.

THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

Rumours, opinions, contradictions, and all varieties of obiter dicta continue to circulate with regard to the peace negotiations. The following lines from the *Confederate* are interesting as typical, but nothing is really known.

Tokio, July 29.—Japan is willing to grant an armistice prior to the meeting of the plenipotentiaries of the two belligerents in the United States in a peace conference, but she wants to be assured first of the good faith of Russia. Japan is suspicious. Yesterday, as the world was informed, Japan demanded that the Russian envoys to the conference bring credentials showing their authority to deal finally with the questions arising.

Now she states that while her position in Manchuria is without question the dominant one, she is willing to forego the glory and gain of more victories and stop the fighting, if the Czar will give sufficient evidence of his willingness and ability to seek no advantage during the armistice, and of his honest desire to end the war at this juncture.

Japan knows that an armistice will help Russia and not herself. She is so prepared and the arena of war so near, to her hopes that she has nothing to gain by a cessation of fighting. Russia on the other hand needs a rest for her soldiers, time for planning and, if she does not defeat, might profit greatly. The interim would give her opportunity to get supplies from Russian territory and to put into better shape her army and her machinery of war.

President Roosevelt is still working for this armistice. The great movement of dynamite toward Vladivostok and the efforts of the Japanese north of Vladivostok, mean much more bloodshed, and Roosevelt. It seeks to stop this. It is possible that his efforts will be crowned with success.

A European authority says:—The peace negotiation between Russia and Japan will eventually prove successful. This is based primarily on the belief that Japan will meet Russia more than half way, making unexpected reasonable demands. Certain intimations have been received that Japan's terms are substantially as follows:

First—The recognition of the Japanese protectorate over Korea.

Second—The return of Manchuria to China. International control of the Eastern Chinese railway.

Fourth—Regarding Port Arthur, the strategic value of this fortress has been overestimated and it is said that its ultimate disposal will not give rise to any controversy.

Fifth—It is not thought that Japan will demand the demolition of the fortifications at Vladivostok.

Sixth—The surrender of the Island of Saghalien will not be demanded by Japan principally because Japan has not yet carried the war into Russian territory.

Seventh—An understanding regarding an indemnity is not impossible, because it is desired Japan will content herself with demanding the cost of the war.

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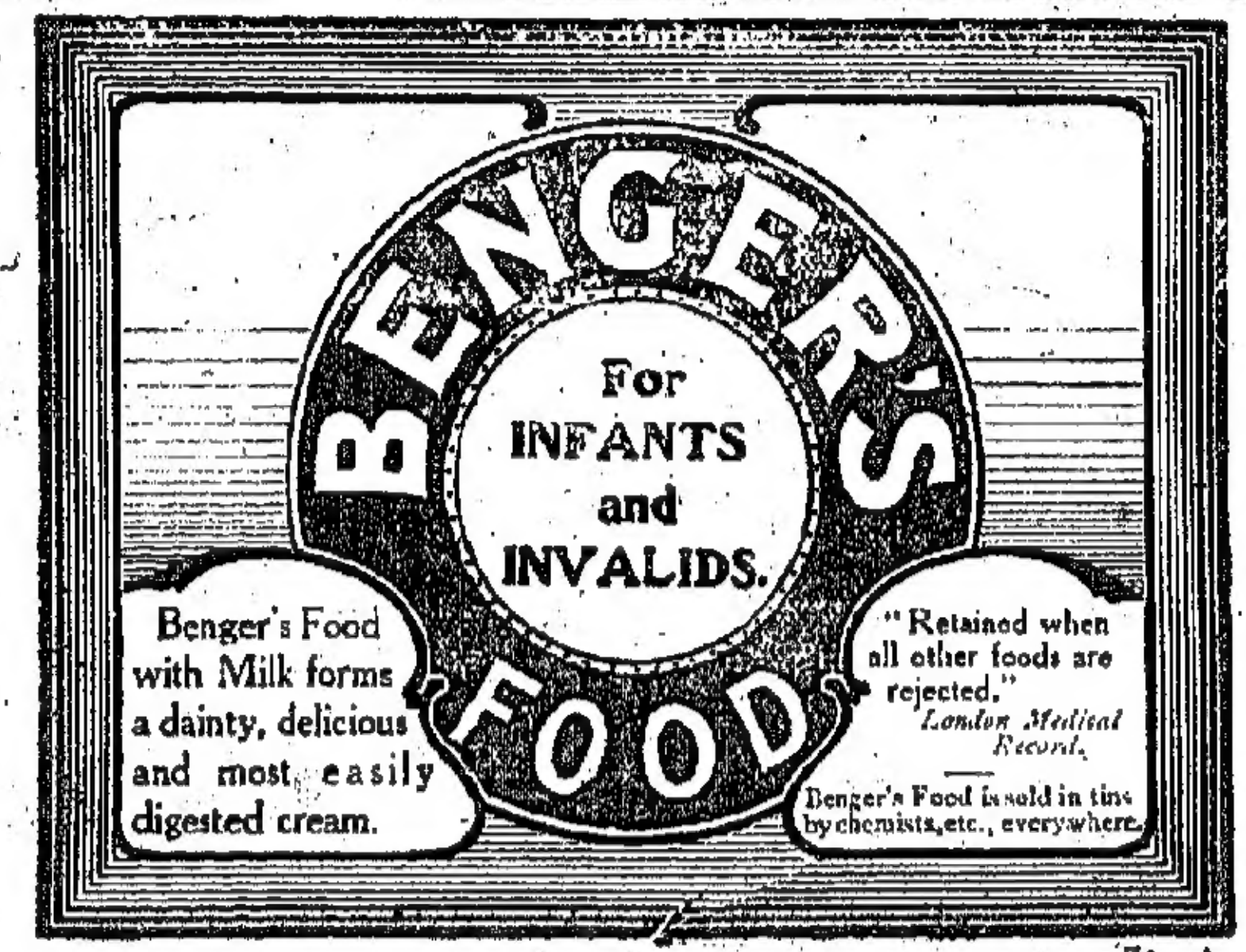
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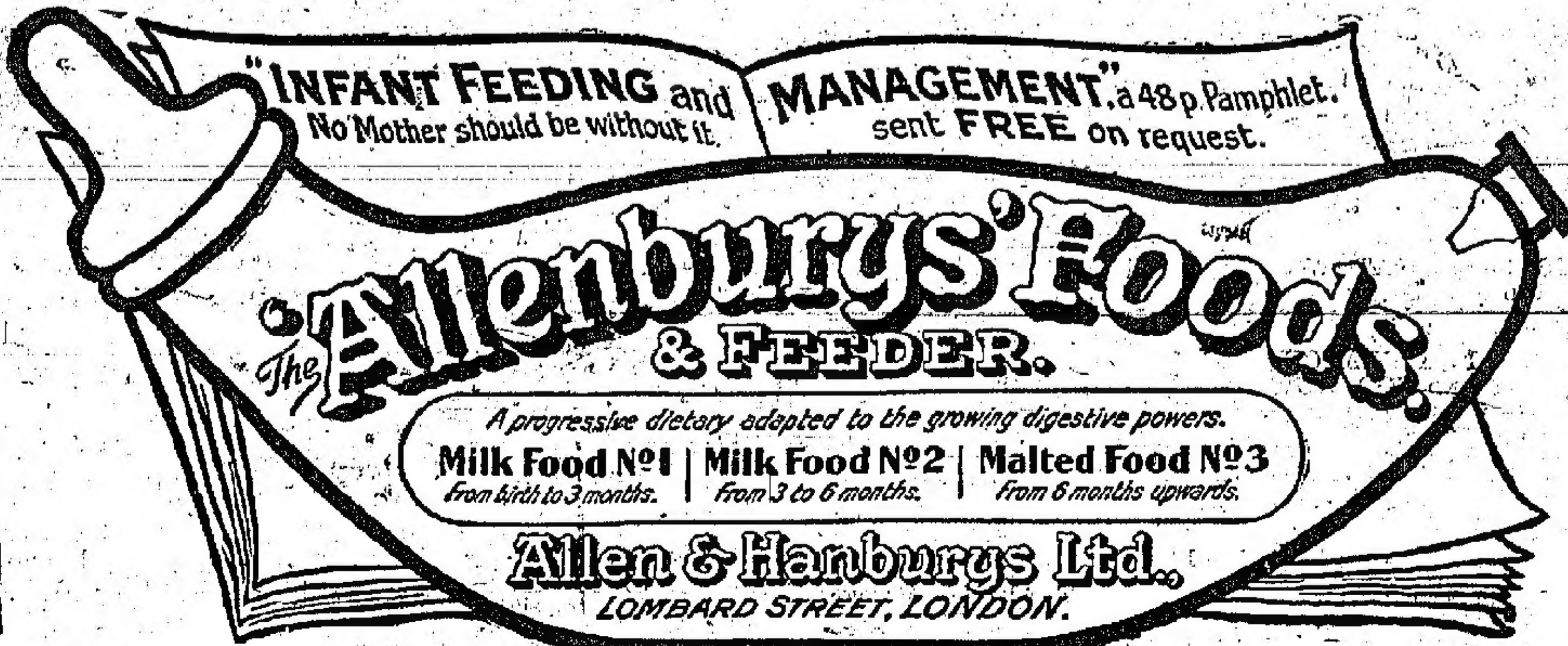
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1842

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

Monday, the 7th inst. being a Bank Holiday, the Post Office will be open for one hour only viz. from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. All outgoing mails will be closed at 9 a.m. The Money Order Office will be entirely closed.

In the event of the arrival of the French mail from Europe the Post Office will reopen for one hour after the mail is sorted.

The *Armand Delic*, with the French mail of the 7th July, left Saigon on Friday, the 4th inst., at 3 p.m., and may be expected here to-day, at noon. This packet brings replies to letters despatched from Hongkong on the June 3rd.

Mails for CANTON, SAMSHUI and WUCHOW are closed on week-days at 7.30 a.m.

On Sunday the mail for Macao is closed at 8 a.m.

A mail for Macao per *s.s. Wingchai* is closed every week-day at 5 p.m.

Mails for NANTAO, BANBU, KONGMOON, KUMCHUK, SAMSHUI, WUCHOW and

*CANTON are closed every week-day, at 5 p.m. On Sundays the mails are closed at 9 a.m.

No mails are despatched to these places on Saturday evenings, unless previously notified.

MAILS WILL CLOSE

FOR	PER	DATE
Macao	Hongkong	Monday, 7th, 9.00 A.M.
Sandakan	Mauwang	Monday, 7th, 9.00 A.M.
Keelung, Shanghai, Moji, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria, B.O., and Tacoma	Tientsin	Tuesday, 8th, 10.00 A.M.
Europe, &c., India via Tutuorin		Tuesday, 8th, 10.00 A.M.
(Late Letters 11.00 to 11.30 A.M. Extra Postage 10 cents.)		
(Letters posted in all the Pillar Boxes in time for the first clearance will be included in this contract mail.)		
Macao	Hongkong	Tuesday, 8th, 12.15 P.M.
Salina Cruz (Mex.)	Kensington	Tuesday, 8th, 1.00 P.M.
Shanghai	Chongang	Tuesday, 8th, 2.00 P.M.
Manila	Tientsin	Tuesday, 8th, 3.00 P.M.
Shanghai	Shanghai	Tuesday, 8th, 3.00 P.M.
Singapore	Singapore	Tuesday, 8th, 4.00 P.M.
Amoy, SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria, and Vancouver (B.O.)	Tientsin	Tuesday, 8th, 4.00 P.M.
Singapore, Penang and Calcutta	Nimsang	Wednesday, 9th, 11.00 A.M.
Tientsin, Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart, Launceston, New Zealand, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth	Empire	Wednesday, 9th, 11.00 A.M.
Macao	Hongkong	Wednesday, 9th, 1.15 P.M.
Singapore, Penang and Bombay	Capri	Thursday, 10th, 1.15 P.M.
Macao	Hongkong	Thursday, 10th, 3.00 P.M.
Cebu and Iloilo	Hongkong	Friday, 11th, 1.15 P.M.
Manila	Rubi	Saturday, 12th, 10.00 A.M.
Europe, &c., India via Tutuorin		Saturday, 12th, 10.00 A.M.
(Late Letters 11.00 to 11.30 A.M. Extra Postage 10 cents.)		
(Supplementary mail on board up to the time fixed for departure of the mail.)		
(Extra Postage 10 cents.)		
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Macao	Hongkong	Saturday, 12th, 1.15 P.M.
Manila, Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart, Launceston, New Zealand, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth	Tientsin	Monday, 14th, 3.00 P.M.
Macao	Hongkong	Tuesday, 15th, 1.15 P.M.
Europe, &c., India via Tutuorin		Wednesday, 16th, 10.00 A.M.
(Late Letters 11.00 to 11.30 A.M. Extra Postage 10 cents.)		
(Letters posted in all the Pillar Boxes in time for the first clearance will be included in this contract mail.)		
Friedrich Wilhelmshafen, Herberstshof, Matapi, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne	Prinz Heinrich	Tuesday, 22nd, 11.00 A.M.

COMMERCIAL.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

		5th August.
ON LONDON.—	Telegraphic Transfer	1.104
Bank Bills, on demand	1.104	
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1.104	
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1.104	
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1.104	
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1.104	
ON PARIS.—	Bank Bills, on demand	237
Credits, at 4 months' sight	240	
ON GERMANY.—	On demand	1893
ON NEW YORK.—	Bank Bills, on demand	46
Credits, 60 days' sight	463	
ON HAMBURG.—	Telegraphic Transfer	1403
Bank, on demand	141	
ON CALCUTTA.—	Telegraphic Transfer	1401
Bank, on demand	141	
ON SHANGHAI.—	Bank, at sight	71
Private, 30 days' sight	72	
ON YOKOHAMA.—	On demand	824
ON MANILA.—	On demand—Pesos—	824
ON SINGAPORE.—	On demand	824 p. p.
ON BATAVIA.—	On demand	1131
ON HONGKONG.—	On demand	1131 p. p.
ON SHANGHAI.—	On demand	1131 p. p.
ON BANGKOK.—	On demand	62
GOVERNMENT, Bank's Paying Rate		45.50
GOLD LAMP, 100 fine, per tael		55.50
BAR SILVER, per oz.		874